# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# WATER RESOURCES
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5287
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2001
DISPUTES ON SHARING OF RIVERS WATER
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Prime Minister has asked the Northern States to resolve their long-pending issues relating to sharing of rivers water;

(b) if so, the extent to which these States have taken initiatives to resolve the issues;

(c) whether the Minister's urgency to resolve the issues was in the context of his stress for a coordinated approach by these States to make more efficient use of available rivers water;

(d) if so, whether any concrete suggestions or steps have been suggested by the Prime Minister to all the concerned States to resolve the water disputes;

(e) if so, whether the Government have agreed to provide help and assistance to these States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a),(b) & (c) Referring to the existence of an institutional arrangement comprising some States for good neighbourly coordination, the Prime Minister stated in his speech during the inauguration of Panorama and Science Centre at Kurukshetra on 6.3.2001, that it is necessary for the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi and Punjab to frame joint policies on some issues. Emphaszing better use of water, he observed that several issues of irrigation and river disputes are pending while water is draining into the sea and the fields are going dry. With specific reference to the need for time bound policies for the National Capital Region, the Hon'ble Prime Minister suggested the Chief Minister of Haryana may take initiative in this regard. Recalling that the Chief Minister of Haryana is considering to convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the region, the Prime Minister wished that such a meeting is held.

(d),(e) & (f) Dedicating the Ranjit Sagar Dam in Punjab to the nation on the 4th March 2001, the Prime Minister had also mentioned that if the Chief Ministers of the region could discuss and come to an agreement on the issues, Centre would extend all help in this regard. As desired by the Prime Minister earlier, the Central Government has been endeavouring to discuss and arrive at a negotiated settlement on water related issues of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan through a meeting of their Chief Ministers.